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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR JULY 1987 OCTOBER 1987

D.C. Unemployment Continues To Show Long-Term Improvement

Unemployment Rate 6.2%

Labor Force

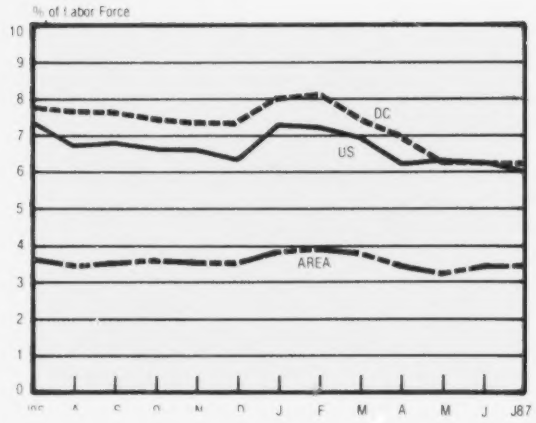
The District

The District's unemployment rate between June and July of this year declined 0.1 of a percentage point to 6.2 percent of the labor force. This is the first time in the past six years that the rate fell between June and July. At 6.2 percent, it is the lowest July jobless rate in over a decade and a half—since the 6.0 percent registered in July of 1972. Over the past 16 years the July unemployment rate measured 8.1 percent, so the current labor market status of District residents shows significant long-term improvement.

The labor force statistics for July were dominated by the District's massive summer youth program. During the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month), the summer program issued paychecks to over 17,000 youths. Total employment in the District between June and July increased by only 16,800, so all of the employment increase can be traced to the summer youth employment program. As a result of the monthly labor market activity, the number of unemployed increased slightly (700), but the monthly employment gain was sufficiently strong to cause a small decrease in the rate.

Continued on page 3

Unemployment Rates
July 1986 to July 1987



Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor

Department of Employment Services
F. Alexis H. Roberson
Director

JOB SERVICE

The Department of Employment Services

Working to keep Washington working.

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling: (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

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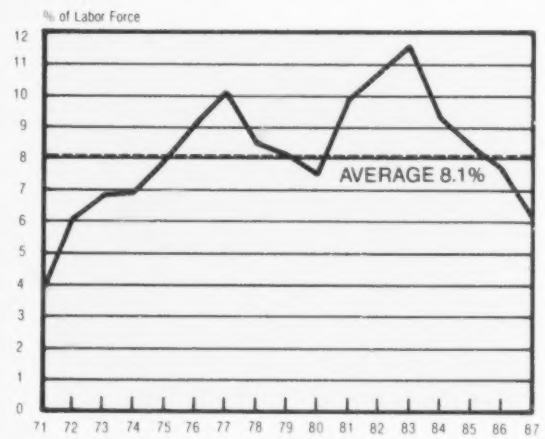
Compared to July of last year (1986), the District's jobless rate is down a *full point and a half*. More importantly, there are 19,600 more city residents with jobs and 4,000 fewer unemployed. Thus, the District's economy has been able to successfully absorb 15,700 new workers over the year. The over-the-year 6.2 percent increase in employment was especially significant.

District Unemployment Rates in the Month of July 1971-1987



The seasonally unadjusted jobless rate for the Nation in July was 6.0 percent—0.2 percentage point below the District's.

The Area & Suburbs

Suburban labor market activity in July was unusual—only 100 new workers joined a labor force of over 1,801,000. In the previous four months, more than 85,000 people entered the labor market. Thus, the July increase seems remarkably small. Perhaps this is an additional indication of the scarce supply of available suburban workers. During the month, 1,500 additional suburban jobseekers found work, 1,300 of them from the unemployment rolls. As a result, there was an additional small 0.1 percentage point decline in the suburban unemployment rate which measures 2.8 percent for the month.

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	July[a] 1987	June[b] 1987	July 1986
District of Columbia	6.2	6.3	7.7
Calvert County	4.7	4.4	3.4
Frederick County	3.8	3.8	4.9
Prince Georges Co.	3.6	3.6	3.3
Charles County	3.3	3.0	2.9
Stafford County	2.9	3.0	2.6
Alexandria	2.6	2.8	3.3
Montgomery County	2.6	2.5	2.4
Falls Church	2.4	2.5	3.7
Prince William Co.	2.3	2.6	2.5
Fairfax County	2.3	2.5	2.6
Loudoun County	2.3	2.6	2.3
Arlington County	2.2	2.4	2.7
Fairfax City	2.0	2.5	2.8
Manassas Park	2.0	2.0	2.5
Manassas	1.9	1.9	2.5

a. Preliminary.
b. Revised.

Source: Department of Employment Services, Maryland Department of Employment and Training, and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Compared to July of 1986, there were 64,000 more suburbanites working this July, an employment increase of 3.8 percent. This employment increase was only slightly smaller than the growth of the suburban labor force, so unemployment increased insignificantly. As a result, the suburban rate over the year dropped from 2.9 percent to 2.8 percent.

For the Area as a whole, the unemployment rate over the year (July 1986 to July 1987) fell 0.3 of a percentage point—from 3.7 percent to 3.4 percent. All of the improvement on the jobless side occurred in the District, which also contributed 23 percent of the

Continued on page 4

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. MSA,
and the Suburban Ring, July 1987[a]

	July[b] 1987	June[c] 1987	July 1986	June 1986	Net Change From June 1987	Net Change From July 1986
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	360,400	342,800	344,700	325,100	17,600	15,700
Total Employed	337,900	321,100	318,300	300,600	16,800	19,600
Total Unemployed	22,400	21,700	26,400	24,500	700	-4,000
Unemployment Rate[d]	6.2	6.3	7.7	7.5	-0.1	-1.5
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,801,000	1,800,900	1,736,900	1,729,800	100	64,100
Total Employed	1,750,900	1,749,400	1,686,900	1,679,000	1,500	64,000
Total Unemployed	50,200	51,500	50,000	50,800	-1,300	200
Unemployment Rate[d]	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	-0.1	-0.1
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,161,400	2,143,700	2,081,600	2,054,900	17,700	79,800
Total Employed	2,088,800	2,070,500	2,005,200	1,979,600	18,300	83,600
Total Unemployed	72,600	73,200	76,400	75,300	-600	-3,800
Unemployment Rate[d]	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.7	—	-0.3

a Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding.
b. Preliminary.
c. Revised.
d. Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, and Stafford; and the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, Maryland Department of Employment and Training, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Continued from page 3

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
July 1987
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	16.7	16.2	30.9
Suburbs	83.3	83.8	69.1

83,600 increase in working Area residents. Similarly, the over-the-month changes in Area statistics were dominated by the District and its large summer youth program—92 percent of the July increase in Washington Area employment originated in the City. Still, the District contains over 30 percent of the jobless, even though it has only about 17 percent of the regional labor force.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits totalled 8,891 in July 1987—down 515 from June. In July, 55 percent of all UI recipients were male. Occupationally, both professional, technical, and managerial workers and clerical and sales workers comprised 25 percent of the July claimants. This was followed by Professional, Technical, and Managerial with 23 percent and service workers at 22 percent. The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 9.9 weeks for all claimants—down from 10.6 weeks in June.

Over the month, the duration for males decreased from 10.9 weeks to 10.3 weeks, while that for females decreased from 10.1 to 9.3 weeks. In July 1986, the average duration for males was 9.9 weeks and 9.2 weeks for females.

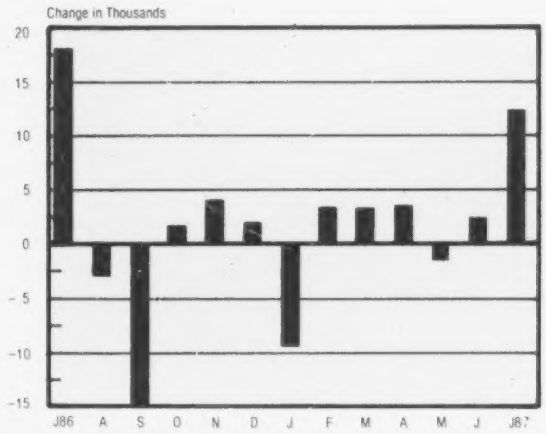
Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased seasonally by 12,400 between June and July. State and Local Government was responsible for the increase, gaining 14,400 jobs as a direct result of the hiring of 17,107 youths by the District Government through the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program.

The private sector declined by 1,200 jobs, with seasonal losses in Trade (800 jobs) and Services (600 jobs). This drop reflects the decreased level of business travel occurring at this time of year and the subsequent decline in Eating and Drinking Places (600 jobs) and Hotels (1,000 jobs). The public sector registered a gain of 13,600 jobs as growth in State and Local Government (14,400 jobs) was partially offset by a reduction in Federal Government (800 jobs).

Monthly Job Growth
The District
July 1986-July 1987



Over the year (July 1986 to July 1987), the number of District jobs rose 0.6 percent for a gain of 4,000 jobs. The private sector created 9,300 jobs for a growth rate of 2.5 percent. Services accounted for 72 percent of private sector growth, contributing 6,700 jobs with significant gains in Hotels and Lodging Places (1,900 jobs), All Other Services (1,300 jobs), Business Services (1,200 jobs) and Legal Services (1,100 jobs). Construction grew by 7.3 percent, adding 1,000 jobs.

The public sector declined by 1.8 percent over the year with losses in both Federal Government (4,400 jobs) and State and Local Government (700 jobs).

The Suburbs

The number of Suburban jobs decreased by 4,500 between June and July. The Maryland Suburbs were responsible for the downturn with a seasonally-induced decline of 5,200 jobs. The Virginia Suburbs regis-

Continued on page 7

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a] (in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	July 1987[b]	June 1987[c]	July 1986	July 1987[b]	June 1987[c]	July 1986
Total	**661.3**	**648.9**	**657.3**	**2,062.8**	**2,054.9**	**2,010.6**
Total Private Sector	384.2	385.4	374.9	1,499.3	1,493.2	1,452.4
Total Government	277.2	263.6	282.4	563.5	561.7	558.2
INDUSTRY						
Manufacturing	**15.6**	**15.7**	**15.6**	**85.0**	**84.9**	**86.3**
Total Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	41.9	41.5	42.6
Stone, Clay, Glass and Concrete Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.5	3.4	3.4
Electrical & Electronic Machinery, Equip. & Sup.	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.6	21.5	23.1
All Other Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.8	16.7	16.1
Total Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	43.1	43.4	43.7
Food & Kindred Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.3	5.4	5.5
Printing & Publishing	11.7	11.8	11.7	30.9	30.9	31.2
All Other Non-Durables	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.9	7.0	7.1
All Other Manufacturing	3.9	3.9	3.9	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.9**	**1.0**	**1.0**
Construction	**14.6**	**14.1**	**13.6**	**129.9**	**127.0**	**126.1**
Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities	**25.0**	**24.9**	**24.6**	**100.2**	**99.3**	**95.2**
Railroad	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.0	5.0	4.8
Transportation (except Railroad)	N/A	N/A	N/A	44.1	43.9	41.0
All Transportation	9.7	9.7	9.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Communication and Public Utilities	15.3	15.2	15.2	51.0	50.4	49.4
Trade	**63.7**	**64.5**	**63.1**	**415.4**	**415.6**	**401.3**
Wholesale	8.9	9.1	9.2	77.5	77.5	74.0
Retail	54.8	55.4	53.9	337.8	338.1	327.3
General Merchandise	4.1	4.0	4.6	38.7	37.9	37.6
Food	N/A	N/A	N/A	46.1	45.9	46.6
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	38.9	39.0	37.2
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	24.9	25.2	24.4
Eating & Drinking Places	27.0	27.6	26.2	108.8	109.5	105.1
All Other Retail	23.7	23.8	23.2	80.5	80.6	76.4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	**37.1**	**37.3**	**36.5**	**122.3**	**121.4**	**117.1**
Banking	7.2	7.2	7.4	21.9	21.8	21.9
All Other	29.9	30.1	29.1	100.3	99.6	95.3
Services	**228.1**	**228.7**	**221.4**	**645.7**	**644.0**	**625.3**
Hotels & Lodging Places	15.3	16.3	13.4	33.7	34.1	31.5
Personal Services	4.0	4.2	4.1	24.0	24.1	23.0
Business Services	50.0	50.1	48.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	33.8	33.5	33.0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Legal Services	24.6	25.0	23.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Membership Organizations	30.9	30.5	30.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
All Other Services	69.4	69.1	68.1	588.0	585.7	570.8

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a] (in thousands)
(continued)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	July 1987[b]	June 1987[c]	July 1986	July 1987[b]	June 1987[c]	July 1986
Government	**277.2**	**263.6**	**282.4**	**563.5**	**561.7**	**558.2**
Federal	209.3	210.1	213.7	356.4	356.8	358.5
State & Local	N/A	N/A	N/A	207.2	204.9	199.7
State & Local (ex. Pub. Transportation)	63.1	48.7	63.8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a. Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. b. Preliminary. c. Revised.

Data includes all full- and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

Source: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Division of Labor Market Information & Research in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, Maryland Department of Employment and Training, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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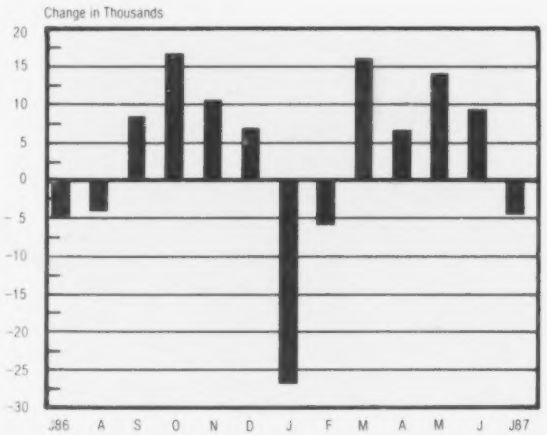
tered a slight (700 jobs) increase. The private sector generated 7,300 jobs, which were fairly equally divided between the Maryland and Virginia Suburbs at 52 and 48 percent, respectively.

Seventy-nine percent of the new jobs created were in Construction (2,400 jobs), Services (2,300 jobs), and Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,100 jobs). The Maryland Suburbs accounted for all the Services growth, while the Virginia Suburbs were responsible for 60 percent of the new jobs generated by the other growth leaders. The public sector declined 4.3 percent for a loss of 11,800 jobs. A slight increase in Federal Government (400 jobs) partially offset a seasonal downturn in State and Local Government (12,100 jobs), 75 percent of which occurred in the Maryland Suburbs.

Over the year (July 1986 to July 1987), Suburban jobs grew at a rate of 3.6 percent for a gain of 48,200 jobs. Growth rates of 3.7 and 3.4 percent were recorded for the Virginia and Maryland Suburbs, which added 24,400 and 23,800 new jobs to their respective economies. The private sector accounted for 78 percent of the growth which occurred primarily in Services

Monthly Job Growth
The Suburbs
July 1986-July 1987

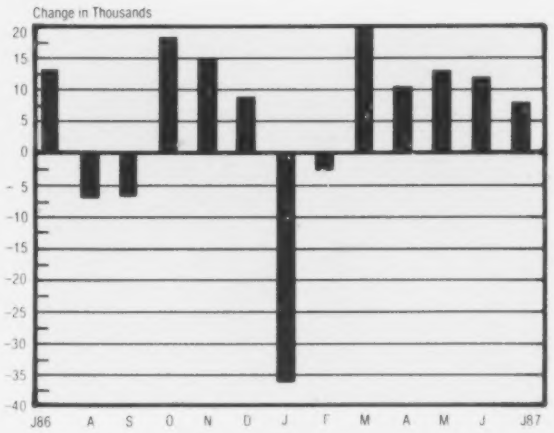


(13,700 jobs) and Trade (13,500 jobs). Fifty-five percent of the new jobs in these industries were generated in the Maryland Suburbs. The public sector grew at a rate of 3.8 percent for an over-the-year gain of 10,500 jobs. The Virginia Suburbs were the recipient of two-thirds of the growth occurring in Federal Government (2,300 jobs) and State and Local Government (8,200 jobs).

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 7,900 jobs between June and July, entirely as a result of the substantial monthly increase in the District. The private sector increased by 6,100 jobs, with the leading growth contributors being Construction (2,900 jobs) and Services (1,700 jobs). In the public sector, State and Local Government gained 2,300 jobs as growth in the District offset a sizable decline in the Suburbs.

Monthly Job Growth
The Area
July 1986-July 1987



Over the year (July 1986 to July 1987), the Area created 52,200 jobs for a 2.6 percent rate of growth. The private sector grew at a rate of 3.2 percent, gaining 46,900 jobs and accounting for 90 percent of total growth. The leading growth contributors, Services (20,400 jobs) and Trade (14,100 jobs), were responsible for two-thirds of all new Area jobs. Significant gains also occurred in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (5,200 jobs), Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (5,000 jobs), and Construction (3,800 jobs).

Over-the-year growth in the public sector of 5,300 jobs resulted from growth in State and Local Government (7,500 jobs) offsetting a reduction of 2,100 jobs in Federal Government. Public sector gains occurred entirely in the Suburbs as the number of government jobs in the District declined by 2 percent over the year. The District now accounts for only 49 percent of public sector jobs in the Area.

Area Job Growth Rates

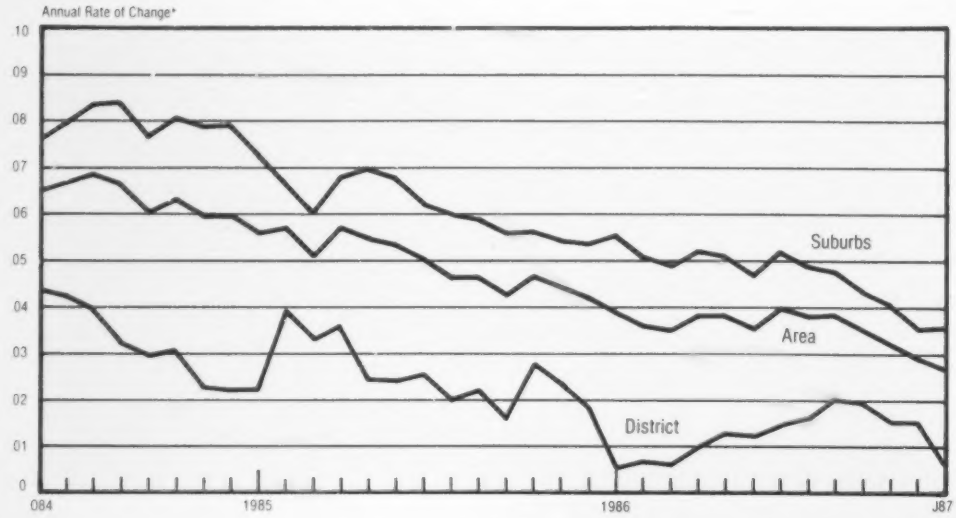
Over the past 33 months (October 1984 to July 1987), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 4.7 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has been steadily declining after peaking at 6.8 percent in December of 1984. Between July 1986 and July 1987, the Area's job growth slowed to 2.6 percent. The Suburban portion of the Area is still the generator of most of the new jobs, having grown over the past year at a rate of 3.6 percent, but below its 33 month long-term average of 6.0 percent. The over-the-year growth this July was the lowest during the 33-month span for the Area. Over the past year, the District proper has added new

Continued on page 9

Profile of Job Growth Rates
October 1984 to July 1987

The Area	
Average 33 months	4.7%
High, December 1984	6.8%
Low, July 1987	2.6%
Current month	2.6%
The Suburbs	
Average 33 months	6.0%
High, January 1985	8.4%
Low, June 1987	3.5%
Current month	3.6%
The District	
Average 33 months	2.2%
High, October 1984	4.4%
Low, July 1986	0.5%
Current month	0.6%

Monthly Over-the-year Rate of Job Growth
October 1984 to July 1987



Comparative Job Growth Rates
July 1986 to July 1987

U.S.	2.5%
Metropolitan Area	2.6%
District of Columbia	0.6%
Maryland Suburbs	3.4%
Northern Virginia Suburbs	3.7%

Continued from page 8

jobs at a rate of 0.6 percent and, like the Suburbs, is below its 33-month average of 2.2 percent.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from 104,200 new jobs produced between July 1984 and July 1985 to 52,200 between July 1986 and this past July. Over the past year, 48,200 new jobs were added to the Suburban economy and 4,000 in the District. Still, the Washington Area is currently creating new jobs at a slightly faster pace than the U.S. economy (2.6 versus 2.5 percent for the Nation).

Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In June 1987, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. Historically, the Washington Area's unemployment rate rises between May and June. Most of the rise is traceable to a huge influx of youths into the labor force following the closing of schools. This June was no exception, the rate edged up from 3.2 percent to 3.4 percent. This was the twenty-sixth lowest rate of all 269 Areas reporting. A year ago, the rate was 3.7 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.4 percent was the second lowest recorded for all major

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metropolitan areas. The Boston Area had the lowest rate at 2.7 percent. A year ago, the Boston rate was 3.3 percent. The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, recorded a June rate of 4.5 percent, up from 4.3 percent. A year ago it was 5.1 percent. The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, had a June jobless rate of 4.2 percent, the same as in May. A year ago, it was 4.7 percent.

States

When the District of Columbia (with a June preliminary unemployment rate of 6.3 percent) was ranked with the 50 states, the District had the twenty-first highest jobless rate in the country. This was one notch below the May standing. Virginia's rate at 4.6 percent was unchanged from May. Maryland's rate was up from 3.9 percent in May to 4.2 percent in June. Virginia and Maryland ranked thirty-eighth and forty-first, respectively, in the standing of the 51 jurisdictions.

Thirty-one states reported rates at or below the national unadjusted rate of 6.3 in June. The District of Columbia's rate, at 6.3 percent, was the same as that for the Nation. Maryland and Virginia were below the national rate.

The lowest unemployment rates for June were in New Hampshire (2.5 percent), Delaware and Massachusetts (both 3.1 percent), and Connecticut (3.2 percent). Two states reported rates exceeding 10 percent—Alaska and Louisiana (both 11.2 percent).

Of the states reporting over-the-year decreases in unemployment rates for June, 21 had declines of 1 percentage point or more. The largest decreases were in Mississippi (2.9 points) and Louisiana (2.8 points). The largest increases over the year occurred in Colorado and Utah (both 0.7 points).

Cities

In comparison with 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia tied with Salt Lake City for the twenty-first highest jobless rate at 6.3 percent. This was down one notch from May's position at twentieth. In June, the average unemployment rate of all 26 cities was 8.0 percent. Of the 26 cities, 22 reported lower jobless rates and four reported higher rates. Twelve (12) of the selected cities have jobless rates of 7.0 or less. Both the District of Columbia and Baltimore fall under this category.

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Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities*

		June	
	City	1987*	1986
1.	Gary, Indiana	15.0	17.2
2.	Detroit, Michigan	12.5	12.4
3.	Houston, Texas	11.1	13.7
4.	St. Louis, Missouri	9.8	9.4
5.	New Orleans, Louisiana	9.5	11.6
5.	Cleveland, Ohio	9.5	12.8
6.	Dayton, Ohio	9.5	10.6
6.	Newark, New Jersey	9.1	10.9
7.	Chicago, Illinois	9.0	10.0
10.	Birmingham, Alabama	8.6	10.4
11.	Dallas, Texas	8.4	8.0
12.	Cincinnati, Ohio	8.3	9.0
13.	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	7.2	7.7
14.	Miami, Florida	7.1	8.7
15.	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	7.0	7.6
16.	Atlanta, Georgia	6.9	7.7
17.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	6.8	8.1
18.	Baltimore, Maryland	6.8	8.0
19.	Buffalo, New York	6.5	9.3
20.	Los Angeles, California	6.4	7.5
21.	**District of Columbia**	**6.3**	**7.5**
22.	Salt Lake City, Utah	6.3	5.9
23.	Columbus, Ohio	6.0	7.0
24.	New York, New York	6.0	7.3
25.	San Francisco, California	4.5	5.6
26.	Boston, Massachusetts	3.7	4.4

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

An Historic View

Job Growth in the District 1945-1985

Since the recovery from the 1982 recession began, the rate of job creation in the District has run significantly behind its suburban neighbors. Between 1983 and 1986, yearly job creation in the District has averaged 2.4 percent, while the suburbs have created jobs at a rate of 7.2 percent. However, viewed in a long-term perspective of the past 40 years, the recent District job growth has been very strong.

Since the end of World War II, the District's economy has added a total of 144,000 jobs. This is an annual job growth rate of 0.7 percent (see table).

If D.C. job creation is viewed in five-year increments, over the past 40 years, the most prolific period of job creation took place between 1960 and 1965, during the "guns and butter" policies of the New Frontier. During these five years, the District added new jobs at an annual rate of 2.8 percent. A total of 70,900 new jobs appeared. These 1960-65 jobs represent nearly half of all the jobs created over the past 40 years. Without the New Frontier expansion, the long-term District job growth rate would be only 0.4 percent a year.

The second most productive period occurred between 1975 and 1980, when job expansion averaged 1.3 percent a year. This growth was, however, cut off by the Reagan administration's layoff of Federal workers, as well as by the 1982 recession.

There was negative growth in two five-year periods. Between 1955 and 1960, District jobs declined marginally by 900 and, between 1965 and 1970, jobs declined by 5,800 producing a negative 0.2 percent job growth rate.

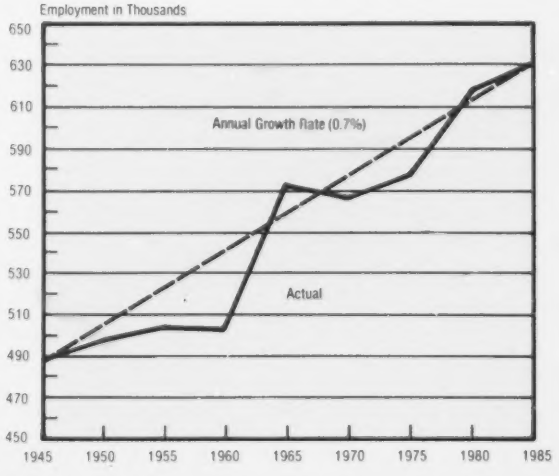
Thus, in the District, annual job growth rates in excess of the range of 0.4 to 0.7 percent constitute better than expected growth. One should not anticipate District growth rates as high as those recorded in the suburbs. The District is a mature economy with scarce and expensive land, a stable population, a declining major industry (Federal Government) and a height restriction on its buildings. Still, the District contains 32 percent of the current regional jobs and, if it averages its historical 0.7 percent growth rate from now to the year 2000, it will add about 55,000 jobs in the next 15 years.

Annual Job Growth Rates
District of Columbia
1945-1985
(Employment in Thousands)

Year	Jobs	Annual Growth (percent)
1945	487.2	—
1950	497.3	0.4
1955	502.7	0.2
1960	501.6	-0.1
1965	572.5	2.8
1970	566.7	-0.2
1975	577.6	0.4
1980	616.6	1.3
1985	631.2	0.5
1945-1985		
Change		144.0
Percent Change		29.6
Annual Rate of Change		0.7

Source: Department of Employment Services, LMIR, Wage and Salary Employment

Long Term Job Growth
District of Columbia
1945-1985



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The District's rate normally is much higher than the Baltimore rate. But in May and June, the trend reversed itself. In June, the former was 6.3 percent while the latter was 6.8 percent. Double digit jobless rates were reported in only three selected cities—Gary (15.0 percent), Detroit (12.5 percent), and Houston (11.1 percent). Boston had the lowest rate at 3.7 percent, followed by San Francisco at 4.5 percent. The largest over-the-year declines in joblessness were in New Orleans, 3.3 percent; Buffalo, 2.8 percent; and Houston, 2.6 percent. No increase equalled 0.5 percentage point.

Departments

Unemployment Insurance Activities

The District of Columbia received 3,514 initial claims for unemployment compensation in July 1987. The July workload was 12 percent above June, but 14 percent below July of last year. This monthly surge is primarily seasonal—marking a quarterly change-of-base period for determining the level of monetary eligibility. There are many claimants who opt to wait until the change of the base period before filing for compensation because their base period for claims filed after July 1 have more earnings than the period for claims filed prior to July 1. The higher base period determines a higher level of benefits.

Claims filed in the month which begins a calendar quarter (and a new base period) have historically been higher than in the other months. The June-July increase in initial claims was 21 percent in 1986, and 38 percent in 1985.

Both the number of weeks claimed and the number of weeks actually compensated dropped from last month—3.0 and 6.0 percent, respectively. Along with these measures, the $6.4 million total outlay for benefits was 7.0 percent below last month. The average weekly benefit amount ($176.79) was down slightly (less than one percent) from last month. This measure has probably now become stabilized. Since the maximum weekly benefit amount increased from $206 to $250 beginning in January 1986, the average weekly payout has increased steadily each month. The average increase per month in 1986 was $1.27 (from $150.84 in January to $166.03 in December). The monthly rate will most likely become stabilized near the July average.

The total outlay through the seventh month (July) of 1987 is $46.4 million, at $176.80 per compensated week. For the same period last year, the amount paid was $43.5 million at $164.80 per week. The increase in the outlay this year is due solely to the increase in the average weekly payout, since the number of compensated weeks dropped by 5,880.

Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.8 percent to 343.1 (1967=100) during the two months ended in July. For the 12-months ended in July, the CPI-U rose 4.2 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.6 percent from May to July. The July level

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
July 1987

	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	Percent Change From June 1987	Percent Change From July 1986
State UI Program[a]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,352	2,980	3,870	+12.5	-13.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	34,530	35,354	40,395	- 2.3	-14.5
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	33,108	35,197	38,723	- 5.9	-14.5
Total Benefits Paid	$5,787,672	$6,198,359	$6,129,758	- 6.6	- 5.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$174.81	$176.10	$158.30	- 0.7	+10.4
Number of First Payments	2,069	1,692	2,298	+22.3	-10.0
Number of Final Payments	968	974	1,170	- 0.6	-17.3
Total Beneficiaries	9,423	9,092	10,239	+ 3.6	- 8.0
Federal Program[b]					
Initial Claims Taken	113	105	151	+ 7.6	-25.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,373	2,608	3,152	- 9.0	-24.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,416	2,597	3,212	- 7.0	-24.8
Total Benefits Paid	$486,938	$525,765	$620,548	- 7.4	-21.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$201.55	$202.45	$193.20	- 0.4	+ 4.3
Number of First Payments	115	104	159	+10.6	-27.7
Number of Final Payments	80	67	77	+19.4	+ 3.9
Total Beneficiaries	664	673	810	- 1.3	-18.0
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c]					
Initial Claims Taken	49	51	67	- 3.9	-26.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	520	629	668	-17.3	-22.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	434	560	532	-22.5	-18.4
Total Benefits Paid	$82,538	$109,070	$98,491	-24.3	-16.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$190.18	$190.68	$185.13	- 0.3	+ 2.7
Number of First Payments	44	43	40	+ 2.3	+10.0
Number of Final Payments	37	30	34	+23.3	+ 8.8
Total Beneficiaries	142	154	153	- 7.8	- 7.2
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,514	3,136	4,088	+12.1	-14.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	37,423	38,591	44,215	- 3.0	-15.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	35,958	38,354	42,467	- 6.2	-15.3
Total Benefits Paid	$6,357,148	$6,833,194	$6,848,797	- 7.0	- 7.2
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$176.79	$178.16	$161.27	- 0.8	+ 9.6
Number of First Payments	2,228	1,839	2,497	+21.2	-10.8
Number of Final Payments	1,085	1,071	1,281	+ 1.3	-15.3
Total Beneficiaries	10,229	9,919	11,202	+ 3.1	- 8.7

a. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
b. Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
c. No joint claims.

of 345.4 was 4.6 percent higher than the index in July 1986.

Nationally, the U.S. city average for the CPI-U increased 0.6 percent for the May-July period, thus both the local and the national index are advancing at about the same pace. For the last 12 months, however, the local index increased 4.2 percent versus a 3.9 percent increase for the Nation.

Locally, the May-July increase was characterized by an acceleration in energy, transportation, entertainment and housing which were somewhat offset by a slowing in the

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Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers — CPI-U)[a]

Expenditure Category	July 1987	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
All Items			
U.S.	340.8	0.6	3.9
Washington Area	343.1	0.8	4.2
Food & Beverage	338.0	0.5	3.3
Housing	365.8	1.0	4.3
Apparel & Upkeep	230.2	-2.5	7.2
Transportation	313.9	2.1	3.7
Medical Care	475.0	-0.2	4.3
Entertainment	282.5	1.2	6.0
Other Goods & Services	362.5	0.4	5.6
Special Index:			
Energy[b]	170.1	6.5	4.5

[a] 1967=100, except as noted.
[b] June 1979=100

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.

increase of all other major components, particularly in apparel and upkeep and medical care.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average over the two-month period, prices of apparel and upkeep, transportation, and entertainment tend to be higher locally. On the other hand, medical care and other goods and services tend to be higher nationally.

Area Wages in March 1987

Each year the Bureau of Labor Statistics conducts a wage survey for selected occupations in the Washington Metropolitan Area. The following are highlights from the survey comparing earnings in March 1986 to March of this year. BLS cautions users, however, that 1986 and 1987 data may not be strictly comparable, because the 1987 survey included all of the expanded definition of the metropolitan area, while the 1986 survey was conducted according to the old definition. (*Note:* For the 1980 Census, the Maryland counties of Frederick and Calvert and the Virginia county of Stafford were added to the Washington Metropolitan Area.)

Average Wages for Selected Occupations
Washington Metropolitan Area
March 1986-March 1987
(In Dollars)*

Average Weekly Earnings:	1986	1987	% Change
Secretaries	392.50	402.50	2.5
Typists	276.50	294.50	6.5
Word Processors	344.50	338.00	- 1.9
Key Entry Operators	269.50	279.50	3.7
Accounting Clerks	306.00	312.50	2.1
Payroll Clerks	316.00	349.00	10.4
File Clerks	244.00	282.50	15.8
Receptionists	255.50	271.50	6.3
Computer Systems Analysts	627.00	714.00	13.9
Computer Programmers	547.00	561.50	2.7
Computer Operators	376.00	386.50	2.8
Drafters	362.50	393.50	8.6
Electronic Technicians	542.00	538.50	- 0.6
Hourly Earnings			
Truck Drivers	10.64	10.44	- 1.9
Shippers	11.09	7.81	-29.6
Receivers	10.02	8.44	-15.8
Warehousemen	9.95	8.07	-18.9
Order Fillers	9.93	12.18	22.7
M-H Labors	8.41	7.03	-16.4
Forklift Operators	10.84	11.53	6.4
Guards	5.49	6.45	17.5
Janitors	4.19	4.88	16.5

* Mean Average.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics: Area Wage Survey—Washington, D.C.-Maryland-Virginia, Metropolitan Area, March 1986 (Bulletin 3035-8) and March 1987 (Bulletin 3040-14).

Among clerical workers, file clerks received the largest relative (15.8 percent) increase in weekly earnings. They were followed by computer systems analysts (13.9 percent) and payroll clerks (10.4 percent). Weekly earnings of word processors and electronic technicians actually declined somewhat.

Among workers earning hourly wages, pay declined in five of nine selected occupations between March 1986 and 1987, with shippers slipping from an average of $11.09 per hour to $7.81 per hour—a decline of 29.6 percent. Warehousemen, order fillers and receivers all showed declines of hourly earnings of more than 15 percent, while guards and janitors earnings increased by more than 15 percent. The following are earnings of selected occupations from the BLS survey.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for the month of July 1987 decreased $1.17. Average Weekly Hours reflects a drop of 1 hour. However, Average Hourly Earnings increased 25 cents an hour.

Stone, Clay and Glass Products showed the largest overall increase. Weekly Earnings were up $7.88. Weekly Hours rose 0.6 of an hour. Hourly Earnings increased 4 cents an hour. The primary contributor to the increase was more overtime.

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Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
July 1987

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986	July 1987	June 1987	July 1986
Total Manufacturing	**414.96**	**416.13**	**392.64**	**38.0**	**39.0**	**37.9**	**10.92**	**10.67**	**10.36**
Durable Goods	**395.35**	**402.41**	**388.82**	**40.8**	**41.4**	**40.8**	**9.69**	**9.72**	**9.53**
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	457.65	449.77	454.09	45.0	44.4	47.4	10.17	10.13	9.58
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	432.84	454.50	400.20	39.1	40.4	40.1	11.07	11.25	9.98
Other Durbable Goods	350.02	348.14	360.51	40.7	41.2	39.4	8.60*	8.45	9.15
Non-Durable Goods	**431.61**	**428.13**	**396.77**	**35.7**	**37.1**	**35.3**	**12.09**	**11.54**	**11.24**
Food & Kindred Products	418.54	472.34	481.16	36.3	38.0	40.4	11.53	12.43	11.91
Printing & Publishing	462.36	443.93	421.82	33.7	35.6	34.1	13.72	12.47	12.37
Other Non-Durable Goods	348.99	350.99	320.62	41.3	41.1	39.1	8.45	8.54	8.20

Total Production Workers	**July 1987**	**June 1987**	**July 1986**
	42,600	**43,000**	**41,100**

*Break taken in series between December 1986 and January 1987, data not comparable to previous years.

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The most significant decrease occurred in Food and Kindred Products. Weekly Earnings were down $53.80. Weekly Hours were down 1.7 hours. Hourly Earnings dropped 90 cents an hour, due to less overtime.

Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies had less overtime, as All Other Durable Goods had more business. Printing and Publishing shows an increase in Hourly Earnings and a decrease in Weekly Hours due to an increase in the proportion of higher paid employees. Less overtime accounted for the drop in All Other Non-Durable Goods.

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